

THE HONORABLE RICHARD A. JONES

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

BLACK LIVES MATTER SEATTLE-
KING COUNTY, ABIE EKENEZAR,
SHARON SAKAMOTO, MURACO
KYASHNA-TOCHA, ALEXANDER
WOLDEAB, AND ALEXANDRA CHEN,

Plaintiffs,

v.

CITY OF SEATTLE,

Defendant.

No. 2:20-cv-887

DECLARATION OF JAMES F. WILLIAMS
IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' PETITION
FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES

I, James F. Williams, declare the following:

1. The information contained in this declaration is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and I am of majority age and competent to testify about the matters set forth herein.

2. I am currently the Seattle Office Managing Partner and recently served a term as the Firmwide Chair of Business Litigation at Perkins Coie, LLP. I submit this declaration in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Attorneys' Fees.

3. I graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1988 and The Citadel, with honors, in 1985. I have been admitted to practice in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington, the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the United

1 States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the United States Court of Appeals for the
2 Tenth Circuit. I have also been admitted *pro hac vice* in numerous other venues. I am an active
3 member in good standing of the Washington State Bar Association. I am an elected member to
4 the American Law Institute, am a long-serving member for Washington to the ABA House of
5 Delegates, and I was elected by Washington State American Bar Association members as the
6 State Delegate to the House of Delegates.

7 4. Since 1993, I have been employed by Perkins Coie LLP, where I have been a
8 partner since 2000 in the firm's litigation department. My practice focuses on complex civil
9 litigation of all kinds in federal and state courts.

10 5. I also have extensive experience on pro bono civil rights litigation cases,
11 including *Wilbur et al., v. City of Mount Vernon, et al.*, No. C11-01100 RSL (W.D. Wash.),
12 where we successfully challenged the public defender systems in two Washington cities
13 (Burlington and Mount Vernon) for failure to provide effective assistance of counsel to indigent
14 defendants. After the successful outcome in *Wilbur*, I submitted a declaration in support of
15 plaintiffs' petition for reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses. Judge Lasnik found that my
16 hourly rate, at the time, of \$580 was within the prevailing market range for work performed
17 during 2011-2013.

18 6. As the Seattle Office Managing Partner, my responsibilities include monitoring
19 the firm's financial performance, including oversight of time posted and bills rendered. I also
20 have knowledge of the regional legal market, including the range of hourly billing rates for
21 attorneys and paralegals. Perkins Coie regularly conducts a detailed market analysis of our
22 billing rates using data from independent sources, including proprietary industry studies.

23 7. Based on industry studies and information from our team of Perkins Coie data
24 analytics experts, I believe the 2020 hourly rate for partner David Perez (\$785); associates
25 Carolyn Gilbert (\$555), Rachel Haney (\$500), Nitika Arora (\$455), Paige Whidbee (\$410),
26 Rachel Dallal (\$410), Malori McGill (\$435), Delaney Butler (\$435), and Caitlin Hoeberlein

1 (\$270); and paralegal Kiyomi Robinson (\$290) fall within the reasonable range for attorneys and
2 paralegals with their equivalent skill, experience, and education.
3

4 Executed this 17th day of December 2020 at Seattle, Washington.

5 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State of
6 Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.
7

8 By: James F. Williams

9 JAMES F. WILLIAMS
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